



Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation
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**POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT # 00033911
REQUISITION # 39169**

Title: Assistant Professor – Human Dimensions of Wildlife Conservation

**Location: Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation
Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS)
University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida 32611**

Salary: Commensurate with Qualifications and Experience

Review Date: For full consideration, candidates should apply and submit additional materials by 1 December 2018. The position will remain open until a viable applicant pool is determined. Interviews are expected to begin in January-February 2019.

Duties and Responsibilities

We are seeking a dynamic scholar, educator, and communicator for a 9-month tenure-accruing appointment available in the Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation (WEC), Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, at the University of Florida. The successful candidate will make a substantial contribution to increasing instructional capacity in a key focus area of the WEC major, namely an understanding of human dimensions of wildlife ecology and conservation and improved communication competency. They will instruct an undergraduate course in Human Dimensions of Natural Resource Conservation, and undergraduate/graduate courses in their area of expertise. The successful candidate also will develop an internationally recognized research program in the area of human dimensions of wildlife conservation. Individuals with experience in urban wildlife management, wildlife trade, conservation education, citizen science, human-wildlife conflict, or wildlife communication are especially encouraged to apply. The incumbent also will be expected to coordinate the department Honors Program.

The successful candidate will mentor and supervise undergraduate and graduate students and engage in curriculum enhancement, and the scholarship of teaching and learning. Numerous opportunities are available at UF to facilitate professional development as an educator. This appointment will be 60% teaching (College of Agricultural and Life Sciences) and 40% research (Florida Agricultural Experiment Station). Because of the IFAS land-grant mission, all faculty are expected to be supportive of and engaged in all three mission areas—Research, Teaching and Extension—regardless of the assignment split specified in the position description.

Qualifications

Required

Candidates must possess a doctorate (PhD or DPhil) (foreign equivalent acceptable) with an emphasis on human dimensions as applied to wildlife ecology, management or conservation; ecology; or closely related natural resources or social sciences discipline. Candidates must have a demonstrated commitment to teaching, experience mentoring students, and promotion of a diverse educational environment. They must have clear evidence of scholarship through first-authored publications. Candidates should have demonstrated skills in verbal and written communication, interpersonal relationships, and procurement of extramural funding. Candidates must be supportive of the mission of the Land-Grant system. Candidates must also have a commitment to IFAS core values of excellence, diversity, global involvement, working across cultures, and accountability.

Preferred:

Preferred qualifications/attributes: 1) Candidates with a well-developed teaching portfolio and/or postdoctoral teaching experience; and 2) Demonstrated commitment to developing a productive research program focusing on human dimensions of wildlife conservation. Candidates should have experience with and be willing to work with state and federal natural resource agencies, NGOs, private landowners and stakeholders. Additionally, candidates must demonstrate the potential to develop a dynamic, externally-funded lab of graduate students, undergraduates and postdocs. Topical expertise can be demonstrated by activities such as publication in peer-reviewed journals, demonstrated graduate student mentoring experience and/or philosophy, and securing research funding.

Background Information

The University of Florida (<http://www.ufl.edu>) is a Land-Grant, Sea-Grant, and Space-Grant institution, encompassing virtually all academic and professional disciplines, with an enrollment of more than 53,000 students. UF is a member of The Association of American Universities. The Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (<http://ifas.ufl.edu>) includes the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (<http://cals.ufl.edu>), the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station (<http://research.ifas.ufl.edu>), the Florida Cooperative Extension Service (<http://extension.ifas.ufl.edu>), the College of Veterinary Medicine (<http://www.vetmed.ufl.edu>), the Florida Sea Grant program (<http://www.flseagrant.org/>), and encompasses 16 on-campus academic departments and schools, 12 Research and Educational Centers (REC) located throughout the state, 6 Research sites/demonstration units administered by RECs or academic departments, and Florida Cooperative Extension Service offices in all 67 counties (counties operate and maintain). The School of Natural Resources and Environment is an interdisciplinary unit housed in IFAS and managed by several colleges on campus. IFAS employs over 2500 people, which includes approximately 900 faculty and 1200 support personnel located in Gainesville and throughout the state. IFAS, one of the nation's largest agricultural and natural resources research and education organizations, is administered by a Senior Vice President and four deans: the Dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, the Dean for Extension and Director of the Florida Cooperative Extension Service, the Dean for Research and Director of the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station, and the Dean for the College of Veterinary Medicine. UF/IFAS also engages in cooperative work with Florida A&M University in Tallahassee.

The programs of the Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation (WEC) emphasize biological and human dimensions of wildlife ecology and conservation in local to international arenas. The international reputation of WEC's academic programs is sustained through genuine dialogue among faculty and students with diverse perspectives, backgrounds and identities. The Department's existing strengths in spatial ecology, population modeling, wildlife disease ecology, conservation genetics, and environmental communication, among others, support strong collaborations. Department faculty may be affiliated with Center for Latin American Studies, Center for African Studies, and the School of Natural Resources and the Environment. Housed with the Department is the Florida Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, whose principal focus is on wetlands wildlife and ecosystem restoration and conservation. The nearby 3,600-hectare Ordway-Swisher Biological Station, managed by the Office of the IFAS Dean of Research, provides an outdoor laboratory for teaching and a site for long-term field research, and has been designated to serve as a National Science Foundation NEON core site.

Several units on or nearby the University of Florida campus complement the teaching and research programs of the Department, including The Florida Climate Institute, an interdisciplinary center hosted at UF and comprising 7 universities; the Tropical Conservation and Development Program in the Center for Latin American Studies; Wildlife Conservation Society; Center for Natural Resources; Center for Wetlands; Center for Biological Conservation; Pre-eminence initiatives in Bioinformatics and Biodiversity; Florida Museum of Natural History; Northeast Regional Data Center; National Ecology Laboratory (Sirenia) of USGS; Florida Field Station (Gainesville) of the U.S.D.A. Wildlife Research Laboratory; Southeastern Forest Experiment Station unit of the U.S. Forest Service; The Nature Conservancy; the Wildlife Research Laboratory of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission; and others.

Florida boasts a diversity of fauna and flora common to both southern temperate and subtropical climates and is replete with springs, rivers, backwater streams, lakes, freshwater and saltwater marshes, mangrove fringes, cypress swamps, hardwood hammocks, sandhills, scrub, pine flatwoods, and rangeland. Nested between the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico, Florida has more than 2,000 kilometers of coastal beaches and estuaries. Special features include the Florida Keys, which constitute an archipelago of picturesque subtropical islands, and the unique Everglades, or "river of grass," which sprawls across the vast southern peninsula. As a gateway to the Caribbean and Latin America, Florida provides convenient access to tropical and temperate environments in the southern hemisphere, and diverse expertise on campus. Gainesville is a small city with culture and character directly linked to the university. Attributes of Gainesville include proximity to many natural areas, expansive media, and many cultural and historical landmarks. Cost of living in Gainesville is slightly below the national average, making it an attractive place to live.

Employment Conditions

This position is available 16 August 2019, and will be filled as soon thereafter as an acceptable applicant is available; specific start date is negotiable; however, the expectation is that the candidate will begin by the start of Fall term 2019. Compensation is commensurate with the education, experience, and qualifications of the selected applicant.

Application Information

Individuals wishing to apply should go online to <http://apply.interfolio.com/56079> and submit:

- Cover letter that clearly states applicant's interest in the position and qualifications relative to the required and preferred qualifications listed above
- Full curriculum vitae
- A statement of teaching/mentoring philosophies, research goals, and diversity activities, such as mentoring students from underrepresented groups (3-page limit, single-spaced)
- Names and contact information for at least 3 references, preferably who can speak to the applicant's teaching and mentoring experience

Nominations are also welcome. Nominations need to include the complete name and address of the nominee. All information should be sent to:

Please refer to Requisition # 39169
Dr. Madan Oli
Chair, Search and Screen Committee
University of Florida
Department of Wildlife Ecology and Conservation
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Selected candidate will be required to provide an official transcript to the hiring department upon hire. A transcript will not be considered "official" if a designation of "Issued to Student" is visible. Degrees earned from an education institution outside of the United States are required to be evaluated by a professional credentialing service provider approved by [National Association of Credential Evaluation Services \(NACES\)](#).

If an accommodation due to a disability is needed to apply for this position, please call 352-392-2477 or the Florida Relay System at 800-955-8771 (TDD). Hiring is contingent upon eligibility to work in the US. Searches are conducted in accordance with Florida's Sunshine Law.

The University of Florida is an Equal Opportunity Institution dedicated to building a broadly diverse and inclusive faculty and staff.